

Module : ENGLISH

Academic Year : 2024/2025

CODE :

Reserved for administration

MARK :

16 / 20

Activity 1: Read the text then answer the following questions

CODE :

reserved for administration

Marker's Full name :

Invigilator :

Cyber-attack should be a wake-up call, says Microsoft

The cyber-attack that has affected 150 countries around the world since Friday should be "a wake-up call" for governments, Microsoft says. It blamed governments for storing data on software that was open to attack, which was then accessed by hackers. Microsoft said the latest virus took advantage of a weakness in Microsoft Windows that was noticed by US investigators. Information about this was stolen from the NSA (National Security Agency).

Many companies and organisations worldwide became victims of the WannaCry attack, including Britain's NHS (National Health Service), US courier service FedEx and French car maker Renault. Russia was one of the countries that was badly affected, its Central Bank and government office computers were attacked by the virus. In China, state media said more than 29,000 organisations across the country were affected, most of which were academic.

6. The virus takes control of users' files and demands \$300 to get back access to data. To prevent new infections, many companies had experts working on the problem over the weekend. More than 200,000 computers were affected since the attack began. By Monday, the virus was not spreading as fast, but people were still reporting cases. On Monday morning, researchers found that only about \$38,000 had been paid into the accounts linked

to the attacks. The virus threatens to delete files within seven days if the ransom is not paid, and also warns that the ransom amount will double after three days.

In a statement on Sunday, Microsoft president and chief legal officer Brad Smith criticised the way governments store information about security weaknesses in computer systems. The company also said that many organisations had failed to keep their systems up-to-date, which allowed the virus to spread. Microsoft said they had released a Windows security update in March, but many users hadn't run it. He added that if customers didn't update their systems, there was no way for them to protect themselves against attacks. Updating a personal computer can be very simple, but for an organisation like Britain's NHS, which was badly affected, it is expensive, complex and takes a lot of time. The

attack has also spread faster and more easily than previous ones. Once the virus infects one computer within a network, it can spread to all the computers in that network "within seconds," said Israel Levy, the CEO of the internet security firm Bufferzone. For example, if one of your colleagues opens an infected PDF that is attached to an email, soon everyone in that office could be under attack. Levy also said that six months ago, this problem didn't happen as this type of virus could only attack one machine at a time. With help from a young security technician, the attack was stopped for a short time, but a new version of the virus soon started to infect computers again.

22-year-old Marcus Hutchins, or 'MalwareTech', was called an "accidental hero" after he helped to slow down the progress of the virus. He bought a web address to track it, which stopped it by chance. The web security expert's boss gave him an extra week off work because of the unexpected events.

Sources: BBC News, CNN, The Telegraph

Activity 1 : Read the text then answer the following questions

1. What was the main cause of the cyber-attack?

The main cause was a Weakness in Windows operating system that was discovered by US investigators, then the hackers gained access to it through hacking.

2. Which major organizations were affected?

Many, like British NHS, U.S. FedEx, French Renault and the Russian Central Bank and China's orgs

3. How did the virus operate?

It's a Ransomware, It begins by preventing you from accessing your files then it asks for a 300\$ ransom to restore access to your files, and if not paid in 7 days, it deletes your files.

4. Why did the virus spread so quickly?

because it can affect all devices in the same network also most of users didn't update Windows so it made it easy for the virus to spread

5. Why did the virus spread so quickly?

Activity 2: Read the news report and replace the words in *italic* with the words from the list (3pts)

Was down ~~victims~~ prevent vulnerable ~~hackers~~ ~~network~~
~~encrypted~~

More than five hundred Canadians have been notified that they may have been *the people who suffered victims* of a major security breach at a large consumer-credit reporting agency. According to reports, staff noticed the problem when the whole connected system of computers ... Network stopped working Was down for an hour. During that time, unauthorised access was gained to personal, detailed credit files containing consumers' banking details and home addresses. Although, *the people who tried to steal the information* hackers weren't able to access all the information because some of it was unreadable because it needed a password encrypted the company wasn't able to stop prevent them from stealing details on around 500 customers. This is the second time this month that a major business has found that its customer record are weak and easily attacked ... Vulnerable to identify theft.

Activity 3: find the terms for the following definitions (2.5 pts)

1- A problem that stops something from working as well as it should ... ERROR ... ~~X~~

2- When someone says there is a problem with something .. Complain! ~~X~~

3- When a protected thing is no longer secure ... Unsecured! ~~X~~

4- To have a new or advanced version of a software or programme ... To update! ~~X~~

5- To make an extra copy of computer information ... Backup! ~~X~~

Activity 4: Put the words in order to form questions (2 pts)

1- was / if / could / I / order / an / place / I / wondering ?

I was wondering if I could place an order ?

2- much / a / does / it / magazine / cost / how / to / send ?

How much does it cost to send a magazine ?

3- idea / do / you / how / any / it / long / have / takes ?

Do you have any idea how long it takes ?

4- would / mind / arrived / if / a / telling / me / has / package / you ?

Would you mind telling me if a package has arrived ?

5- Has / visitor / yet / my / arrived ?

Has my visitor arrived yet ?

6- tell / the / where / is / me / could / post / anyone / office ?

Could anyone tell me where is the post office ?

7- do / for / you / a / if / know / left / message / they / me ?

Do you know if they left a message for me ?

8- will / my / what / arrive / day / order ?

What day my order will arrive ?

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